



PRESS RELEASE

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Commission's Accrediting Committee Elects Co-Chairs for 2012-13

SACRAMENTO – The Committee on Accreditation (COA) elected two of its members to serve as co-chairs. **Joseph Jimenez**, representing the K-12 community, and **Dr. Anne K. Jones**, who served as co-chair in 2011-12 and represents the higher education community, will lead the COA in 2012-13 through a list of recommended changes, analysis and actions recently set for them by the Commission ([here](#)).

At its June 14 meeting, the Commission voted to suspend staff work associated with accreditation site visits after being faced with extreme fiscal restrictions in the 2012-13 budget year. At that same meeting, the Commission directed the COA to streamline the accreditation processes and increase the effectiveness of assessments and the usefulness of data.

Joseph Jimenez currently provides technical assistance to induction programs as an Induction Consultant at the Tulare County Office of Education, where he has served in a number of roles since 1992. Prior to that time, Mr. Jimenez was on the faculty at California State University, Fresno, served as Dean of Students at Green Acres Middle School, and was a principal and teacher at three Central California schools. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree and one of two teaching credentials from Westmont College in Santa Barbara, and an additional teaching credential, Master of Arts degree and Administrative Services credential at Fresno Pacific College in Fresno.

Dr. Jones is the Assistant Dean for Academic Programs and Student Affairs in the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) where she has also been the Director of Teacher Education since 2007. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and a Master's degree in Teacher Education from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from University of California, Irvine and UCLA. Dr. Jones holds a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and, in her early career, taught elementary school and in full

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inclusion programs for students with severe disabilities. She has an extensive research background that includes study of performance assessments for teacher candidates. Dr. Jones is currently involved in the design and implementation of a comprehensive information system to collect and manage data for teacher preparation programs. In addition to her work on the COA, she has generously provided leadership and advice on several of the Commission's workgroups.

The COA is a statutory committee appointed by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission). The COA is charged with the task of deciding on the accreditation of educator preparation programs, determining the comparability of national or alternative program standards with California standards of educator preparation, and bringing accreditation recommendations before the Commission for approval.

"Accreditation" is the approval process that all educator preparation programs must undergo in order to prepare licensed educators in California. The educator preparation accreditation system focuses on the demonstrated competence of California's educators. The system features ongoing data collection and a 7-year cycle of activities, including at least one site visit. The COA can determine at any point if program intervention or assistance is needed. This accreditation process is designed to assure the public and the policy makers that these programs are effectively training school personnel to function in the credential areas for which they are being prepared. Evidence of the accreditation system's success is the continuing viability of programs that produce effective educators for California's students.

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